



MINUTES
OAK BAY COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION
WORKING GROUP
TO BE HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2019 AT 5:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL HALL, 2167 OAK BAY AVENUE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pam Copley
Patrick Frey
Virginia Holden
Kristina Leach

Michael Low
Kris Nichols
Caroline Smart
Councillor Andrew Appleton

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Taddy

STAFF PRESENT

Deborah Jensen, Manager of Planning
Krista Mitchell, Building and Planning Clerk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm.

a) Introductions

Councillor Appleton introduced the Community Climate Action Working Group.

2. Approval of Agenda and Late Items

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Old Business

None.

4. New Business

a) Background Introduction

Councillor Appleton advised that Council declared a climate emergency in spring 2019, and subsequent actions are resulting from this declaration. Some of the comments were:

- Capital Regional District has declared a climate emergency.
- Council stated that climate action and greenhouse gas emissions would be acknowledged in future strategic priorities.
- Council is committing to action to address climate change impacts and mitigation.
- The CCAWG, consisting of current members of the Advisory Planning Commission, shall serve a term beginning November 19, 2019 through March 2020, or until such time as their findings are reported to Council.
- Use CCAWG as a mechanism to feed climate action recommendations into the 2020 strategic plan.

b) Working Group Terms of Reference

Councillor Appleton commented that the overall meeting format will provide for:

- Inviting speakers to contribute to the climate topic;
- Providing the public an opportunity to speak; and
- using the regular APC meeting dates for the CCAWG meetings, with the potential for some meetings dates.

c) Climate Action Objectives and Discussion

CCAWG members provided input into the overall process and targets for reporting to Council. Some of the comments were:

- Climate change discussions need to incorporate sustainability, social and technical lens, which should be recognized in the terms of reference.
- Climate change is ongoing issue and must be considered through a strategic plan lens.
- Scope setting is paramount, with the CCAWG purpose specific to up to five recommendations for climate change actions that are specific to the community, defined by time frames and ability to gauge success, and which can be incorporated into the 2020 strategic plan.
- Consider potential costs and resources.
- Measurability is key, recommendations should be quantifiable and not aspirational.
- District could be active in promoting leadership and inspiring the community to do more.
- CCAWG could incorporate items beyond scope, but discussions should be focussed to produce productive results through bylaws and policies that the District is able to regulate.
- Consider utilizing the best ideas from other municipalities.
- A balanced approach of municipal initiatives and community action would be beneficial.

Councillor Appleton advised the strategic plan does not specifically identify climate action as a review lens, but noted the District has made enormous strides in working towards carbon neutrality and focussing discussions on what operational changes can make a community impact. He also noted District representatives, including Council and staff, participate on the CRD Intermunicipal Climate Change Working Group.

D. Jensen noted that the District is already involved in climate action initiative including:

- Energy Step Code to Step 3
- Housing Framework
- Bowker 100 Year Blueprint
- LED Streetlight Changeout
- Canada / Vancouver Island Trail Systems
- Sea Level Rise Study
- Urban Forest Strategy
- Sewer Separation
- Cadboro Bay Bike Lanes

The December meeting will focus on developing guiding principles to steer the climate action recommendations discussions.

Action Item	Date By	Who
1. 2008 Climate Summary to be distributed to CCAWG	Dec 3/19	Staff
2. Provide speaker ideas to District Staff	Ongoing	CCAWG

5. Information Items

- a) December 2, 2019 *Experts Talk on Adapting to Climate Change* Presentation

6. Public Participation

Michelle Kirby, Oak Bay resident, stated she is hoping the Province will be supportive of local government by providing incentives, which are needed to take action. She noted funding could be for EV chargers and active transportation infrastructure, but the District needs to be grant application ready and get residents excited about incentives.

Dylan Kelk, Esquimalt resident, a member of the Oak Bay Climate Force, thanked the District for forming the CCAWG group and noted that public engagement is important, as is viewing climate action from technical and social lenses. He noted it was important to be open to auxiliary community actions, for example, food gardens.

Andrea Careless, Oak Bay resident, a member of Oak Bay Climate force, stated she has worked for the Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Environmental Health for many years and believes the five key actions are a good idea. She noted community uptake will be an issue as people don't want to change their behaviour, so social engagement and communication will be key to success.

Pam Woodland, Oak Bay resident, a member of the Oak Bay Climate Force stated she heard discussion regarding technical and social elements, but also need to include environment. She advised that parks are under stress and are overused.

7. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the CCAWG is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.